

## IN THE REALM OF MUSIC

Albert Coates of London Conducts New York Symphony Orchestra.

By Frank H. Warren.

The New York Symphony Orchestra started on the second lap of its season's journey yesterday afternoon in charge of the strenuous Albert Coates of London, who is to supplant Walter Damrosch for the next two months. As guest conductor of the Symphony Society last season Mr. Coates created an impression potent enough to extract an invitation for a return engagement. He is a vigorous, virile and peppery person. With his sweeping gestures and genuflections he belongs to the Walter Camp-Daily-Dosen-School, exercising himself into a sudoriferous state even in the leisurely tempo in which he framed "The Mastersingers" overture that opened the programme. He is a good, healthy, muscular conductor that deals more in dynamic contrasts than in subtle interpretations.

Mr. Coates brought with him for his first concert a new work of the modern English school entitled "The Planets," a symphonic suite by Gustav Holst who, a fellow Englishman has stated, has something in him nearer genius than any other Englishman outside Elgar and Debussy. Although forty-seven, Holst is little known, yet his works include two operas, a masque, a scene for soprano and orchestra, and numerous settings of hymns and lyrics. Holst understands the orchestra. He is a modern composer without depending on the so-called modern idiom; that is, he has discovered his own musical language. This is not a freakish tongue, of strange squeaks, noises and devices, but straightforward writing that makes its point.

"The Planets" consists of seven movements and was first performed a year ago in London by Mr. Coates. It occupies an hour in the playing and to our mind, portions of it are over-long. Indeed, the last twenty minutes are tiresome. "The Planets" is based on the astrological rather than the astronomical significance of the heavenly bodies. If you believe in horoscopes, then, you can easily comprehend "Mars—The Bringer of War," the first movement. This is the most original of the seven and is strikingly vigorous in its tempo, its color and its sweep. You can sense the rhythmic call to battle, the thunderous and heavy tramp of the approaching war god. "Venus—The Bringer of Peace" provides a contrast with its soft flutings. "Mercury—The Winged Messenger" would do for a scherzo. The messenger comes on airy feet to the accompaniment of bells and muted violins. A Russian influence is noted here in the tempo. "Jupiter—The Bringer of Jollity" stalks in heavily, indulging in sportive dance and a typical British tune. The "Rule Britannia" type. "Saturn—The Bringer of Old Age" is another effective movement. The sand glass ticks away the minutes, the bells toll off the hours and the six tympani provide the dirge for Old Graybeard's coming. "Uranus—The Magician" and "Neptune—The Mystic" are not so fortunate in their musical delineation, and the composer's pen seemed to have run dry. We should place Mars, Mercury and Saturn at the head of Mr. Holst's procession, musically, and leave the others to remain unshook.

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## BIG THEATRICAL MERGER REPORTED IN PHILADELPHIA.

To Take In All Rival Managers and Affect All Branches of the Industry.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 30.—A huge combination of theatrical interests affecting every branch of the theatrical industry is in process of formation, according to a leading manager of this city. It is planned, he said to-day, to include motion pictures and vaudeville with "legitimate" productions in one great merger.

Productions put out by either of the two biggest existing groups of interests—the Shuberts and their associates, and the Erlanger, Dillingham, Ziegfeld, Frohman and Nixon managers—may be played over the circuit in the houses owned or controlled by the others.

The merger, he said, will also affect the labor situation. The unions of actors, stage hands and musicians, he said, "have brought producers face to face with a struggle for their existence. No ordinary means would suffice to meet so great a task as this, and we must tackle it in the only way possible, by sinking all individual differences for the good of all concerned."

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Opportunities All Over the Store  
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One model is illustrated.

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Hudson Seal Coats (dyed muskrat)—36 in. long—were \$275.00	250.00
Marmot Coats—40 inch—were \$135.00	97.50
Black Lynx Scarfs—were \$80.75	45.50
Hudson Seal Shawl Collar (dyed muskrat)—large size—were \$49.75	35.50
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Corsets—several models—low bust—long hips—were \$2.00	1.14
Maternity Corsets—medium bust—long hips—odd sizes—were 2.00	1.08
Bandeaux—pink novelty brocade—were \$1.25	1.00
Brassieres—silk brocade—trimmed top and bottom with wide fillet lace—were \$1.50	.59
Corset Waists—coulit—button and clasp front—sizes 18 to 25 and a few larger sizes—were \$1.25	.51

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Values for the New Year's coat or suit that offer welcome reductions on Saturday, last day of end-of-month thrift sales.

54 and 56 Inch All-Wool Men's Wear Surges—navy blue—heavy weight—were \$1.97	1.48
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End-of-Month Thrift Sales

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End-of-Month Thrift Sales

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were \$7.50 and \$8.50	3.95

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